

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00995 221114Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DLOS-09 EB-07 /083 W
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R 221017Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7485
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0995

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV IC GW
SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT TO ICELAND

1. DURING CALL ON MFA PEROA
ENT UNDER SECRETARY
BJORNSSON JULY 20, AMBAS ADOR ASKED BJORNSSON FOR LATTER'S
IMPRESSIONS OF CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT TO REYKJAVIK.
BJORNSSON STATED THAT VISIT HAD ENTAILED ABOUT TWO HOURS
DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS. IN RESTRICTED MEETING
AT WHICH PRIME MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON WAS ACCOMPANIED BY
ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN PRIME MINISTER
INFORMED SCHMIDT THAT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY FISHERIES
AGREEMENT WITH FRG WOULD BE RENEWED ON ITS EXPIRATION
NOVEMBER 1977. SCHMIDT, ACCORDING TO BJORNSSON EXPRESSED
UNDERSTANDING OF REASONS WHY GOI COULD NOT RENEW AGREEMENT
BUT "AS REPRESENTATIVE OF CITY OF HAMBURG" NATURALLY
REGRETTED GOI DECISION. SCHMIDT RECOGNIZED THAT AFTR
NOVEMBER FRG FISHERIES INTERESTS WITH RESPECT TO ICELAND
WOULD BE HANDLED BY EEC COMMISSION.

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PAGE 02 REYKJA 00995 221114Z

2. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUERY AS TO WHETHER
SCHMIDT OFFERED ANY COMMENTS ON HIS VISITS TO WASHINGTON
AND OTTAWA, BJORNSSON SAID CHANCELLOR INDICATED HE HAD
BEEN MO T FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S
INTELLIGENCE AND GRASP OF ISSIES THEY DISCUSSED. SCHMIDT,
ACCORDING TO BJORNSSON, SAID HE ALSO HAD FEELING THAT
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN USG AND FRG HAD SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED

SINCE LONDON NATO MEETING. RE OTTAWA VISIT, SCHMIDT EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER QUEBEC SEPARATISM BUT TOLD PRIME MINISTER THAT IF ANYONE COULD HANDLE PROBLEM IT WAS TRUDEAU BECAUSE OF HIS LINKS WITH BOTH CANADIAN COMMUNITIES.

3. IN DISCUSSING VISIT WITH DCM ON JULY 21 WEST GERMAN COUNSELOR OF EMBASSY KRUG HIGHLIGHTED SAME POINTS THAT BJORNSSON HAD AND ADDED THAT HALLGRIMSSON HAD ACCEPTED SCHMIDT'S INVITATION TO VISIT WEST GERMANY BUT THAT NO DATES HAD YET BEEN SET. KRUG ALSO NOTED HIS OWN PERSONAL IMPRESSION THAT SCHMIDT HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN VERY PLEASED BY THE WAY IN WHICH HE AND HIS PARTY HAD BEEN RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON.

4. CHANCELLOR AND MRS. SCHMIDT SPENT MOST OF STAY IN ICELAND IN PRIVATE CAPACITY, INCLUDING SIGHTSEEING TRIP TO WESTMAN ISLANDS ON SUNDAY AND VISITS TO LOCAL CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS IN REYKJAVIK AREA.
BLAKE

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